CUP21.g.42/32

Colcheſter, 9th October, 1781.

To the WORTHY ELECTORS of COLCHESTER.

GENTLEMEN,

YOU have ſo lately aſſerted the right of independent Electors to chooſe their own Repreſentative, in the free choice of your worthy Member Sir ROBERT SMYTH, that it is to be hoped you will not, in the preſent caſe, ſuffer any man to be impoſed on you, whoſe ſituation may expoſe him to Miniſterial Influence. If that noble ſpirit of Freedom, which you exerted at the laſt Election, ſhould now be extinguiſhed, your liberty is gone for ever. Let the favoured candidate be *nominated by yourſelves*—the characters of men who are forward to obtrude themſelves, muſt always be liable to ſuſpicion.—Above all things, be aware, that every ſecret power and influence will be exerted to the utmoſt, to deprive you of that moſt valuable franchiſe, THE NOMINATION OF YOUR OWN REPRESENTATIVE. Let this important truth ſtand proved, as far as your example will extend, that when elections are unawed by power, Parliaments will be free.

AN INDEPENDENT BURGESS.